

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /010 W

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P 111538Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY 1772

UNCLAS MANAMA 0038

FOR NEA/EX WILLIAMSON FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : AFIN, BA

SUBJECT : FY-75 REPRESENTATION ALLOTMENT FUNDS

1. DURING HIS RECENT CONSULTATIONS RON MAIN LEFT WITH EX
OUR FY-75 REPRESENTATION PLAN CALLING FOR MINIMUM \$3260
FUNDING. EXPERIENCE AT HALF WAY MARK SUGGESTS THIS WAS
MODEST ESTIMATE.

2. IN FIRST HALF FY-75 WE PAID OUT \$1450 IN REPRESENTATION
REIMBURSEMENT. WE KEPT DISBURSEMENTS AT THAT LEVEL IN ORDER
NOT TO EXCEED FY-74 TOTAL ALLOTMENT OF \$1600 EVEN THOUGH
THERE IS NO ARGUMENT THAT THIS EMBASSY NOW AND IN FUTURE IS
IN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT REPRESENTATION SITUATION THAN IN FY-74.
WHAT WE ACTUALLY SPENT WAS OVER \$2700, WITH OVER \$1250 OUT-
OF-POCKET, MOSTLY OUT OF MY POCKET. I AM LESS CONCERNED BY
THIS OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENDITURE THAN THE FACT THAT ONLY E/C
OFFICER STARRETT AND I WERE ABLE TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT IN
FIRST HALF FY-75, AND HE GOT A QUITE MODEST SLICE.

3. FIRST HALF FY-75 INCLUDED NEARLY THREE MONTHS OF RELATIVELY
QUIET VACATIONAL RAMADAN SEASON IN BAHRAIN, IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWED BY FLOOD OF HIGH LEVEL OFFICIAL AND BUSINESS
VISITORS WHICH SHOWS NO SIGN OF EBBING. HENCE I SEE NO
WAY WE CAN HOLD REPRESENTATION EXPENSES IN REMAINING HALF OF
YEAR BELOW THOSE OF FIRST HALF. IN FACT I PERSONALLY HAVE NO
INTENTION OF DOING SO IF I AM TO DO MY JOB HERE. MOREOVER TO
MAKE OUR PRESENCE MEANINGFUL I EXPECT THE REST OF MY STAFF TO

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DO SUBSTANTIALLY MORE IN REPRESENTATIONAL AREA IN REST OF THIS

FISCAL YEAR AND FUTURE THAN THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO IN
PAST. I THINK YOU WILL AGREE THEY SHOULD NOT BE SUBSTANTIALLY
OUT OF POCKET IN THIS EFFORT, AND I HOPE YOU WILL AGREE I
SHOULD NOT BE MUCH MORE OUT OF POCKET AT END OF FY-75 THAN
I AM NOW.

4. THUS WE NEED NOW ASSURANCES OF HAVING AT LEAST ALL OF
\$3260 ALLOTMENT WE EARLIER REQUESTED, AND COULD WELL USE ANY-
THING EXTRA YOU MAY HAVE LYING AROUND IN THE POT AT YEAR'S
END. WE KNOW WE HAVE NEVER LACKED EX'S SYMPATHY AND HOPE
IT CONTINUES TO FAVOR US IN OUR DIRE NEED.
TWINAM

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